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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.: 09/934,300  
 Applicant(s): Talarico *et al.*  
 Filed: 8/21/01  
 Art Unit: 1645  
 Examiner: S. Devi  
 Title: METHODS FOR PURIFICATION OF AN ACTIVATED PEG SOLUTION  
 AND FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF A MODIFIED HEMOGLOBIN SOLUTION

Confirmation No.: 8297

Docket No.: 035780/233666  
 Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

Sir:

An interview in the above-referenced matter occurred on November 16, 2005 between Examiner Devi and Applicants' representatives, Murray Spruill and Michelle L. Cunningham. Applicants provide below a summary of the interview.

The July 15, 2005 Office Action was discussed. Specifically, claims 12-19 were discussed in view of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In particular, the rejection of claim 12 as anticipated by Greenwald *et al.* (1996) *Bioconjugate Chem.* 7:638-641 was discussed. An agreement was reached that amendment of subpart (c) of claim 12 to recite "combining said resulting filtered aPEG solution of step (b) with a hemoglobin solution" would overcome the rejection of the claims based upon the Greenwald *et al.* reference. The Examiner further suggested amending claim 12 to recite "A method of preparing a solution of a chemically modified hemoglobin" to more clearly define the invention. To further prosecution, Applicants' representatives agreed to submit a Supplemental Amendment to incorporate the Examiner's suggestions into claim 12.

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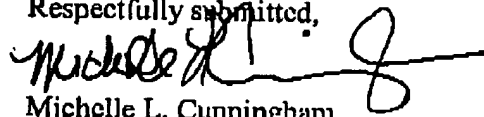
Appl. No.: 09/934,300  
Amdt. dated 11/17/2005  
Reply to Interview Summary of November 16, 2005

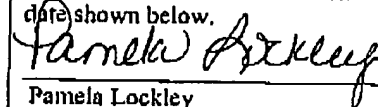
In addition, the Examiner recommended amending claim 14 to expressly recite that the solvent is ethanol and to remove reference to methanol and acetonitrile as potential solvents. Although no formal rejection has been made that necessitates such an amendment, Applicants' representatives agreed to consider incorporating the Examiner's proposed amendment to claim 14 to expedite prosecution.

The Examiner indicated that amendment of the claims in accordance with her suggestions would place the claims in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Interview Summary into the above-referenced matter. It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michelle L. Cunningham  
Registration No. 51,072

<p>Customer No. 00826 <b>ALSTON &amp; BIRD LLP</b> Bank of America Plaza 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000 Tel Raleigh Office (919) 862-2200 Fax Raleigh Office (919) 862-2260</p>	<p><b>CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION</b> I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.  Pamela Lockley Date 11/17/05</p>
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